



**Frederick County  
Government  
Frederick, Maryland**

# *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL ISSUES OPINION INVALIDATING PREVIOUS BOCC PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

**FREDERICK, MD** – The Office of the Maryland Attorney General issued an opinion (99 Opinions of the Attorney General- 2014) today invalidating the appointment of former Commissioner Blaine Young to the Frederick County Planning Commission. Link to: [Opinion](#).

County Executive Jan Gardner had requested the opinion in regard to the validity of the past and now defunct Board of County Commissioners appointment made at the end of the last meeting of the Board.

The Maryland Attorney General's Office has concurred with a recent memorandum of the Frederick County Attorney that holding both the office of County Commissioner and the office of Planning Commissioner were two "offices of profit" and were "incompatible" and based on other law concluded that "Mr. Young was ineligible for appointment as a 'citizen' member of the planning commission and thus never validly held the position."

County Executive Gardner has forwarded a copy of the Attorney General Opinion along with correspondence to Mr. Young informing him that the Attorney General's office had issued a ruling regarding his appointment to the Frederick County Planning Commission, and concluded that he was "ineligible for appointment as a 'citizen' member of the planning commission" and thus never validly held the position.

County Executive Gardner stated, "I am pleased the Attorney General rendered an expedited opinion. This is a victory today for transparency, open government, and the people of Frederick County."

For additional information, contact County Attorney John Mathias at 301-600-1030 or via e-mail [at JMathias@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:JMathias@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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